

From owner-boatanchors@gnu.ai.mit.edu Sat Nov 26 20:43:32 1994  
Date: Sat, 26 Nov 94 14:29:03 HST  
From: jeffrey@math.hawaii.edu (Jeffrey Herman)  
Message-Id: <9411270029.AA03482@kahuna.math.hawaii.edu>  
Subject: 6M AM

Got the following off of wrecked.radio.amateur.mess and thought  
it might be of interest to the BA crowd.

Jeff NH6IL

\*\*\*\*\*begin included article\*\*\*\*\*

Article: 68867 of rec.radio.amateur.misc  
>From: rbellville@aol.com (RBellville)  
Newsgroups: rec.radio.amateur.misc  
Subject: >> Survey Results: 6M AM <<  
Date: 24 Nov 1994 12:50:17 -0500

FROM:  
Rob Bellville, N1NTE  
PO Box 515  
Millbury, MA 01527-0515  
email -> rbellville@aol.com

SUBJECT:  
6 METER AM SURVEY RESULTS as of 11/23/94  
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I wish to thank all the hams who contributed to  
this survey. Most of the information came from  
people via the Internet. I am also looking to  
update this survey so please forward any relevant  
information my way. Thanks!

I received many types of responses to this survey.  
They ranged from "I really enjoy operating 6M AM."  
to "6M AM is dead and gone." I believe the  
differences in opinions were mostly due to  
geographical issues. It seems that some areas of  
the country have little or no activity and others  
a fair amount.

Six meters is an band that is beginning again to  
gain some recognition from equipment manufact-  
urers. The late 1950s and into the 1960s seemed to

be the most popular era for the manufacture of AM equipment. Although these rigs are definitely not state of the art, they do lend to a nostalgic feeling analogous to driving an antique car. The old jalopy may not be fuel efficient or full of luxury features but it's fun AND different!

At hamfests all across the country you can find AM equipment at very reasonable prices. For as little as \$20 you can pick up a working radio ready for an antenna. What other band can you get on the air so cheaply? Searching the flea markets with your friends you could start AM activity in your area for less than the price of a new 2M HT! String up a simple dipole and go!

Some of the AM rigs have VFOs but most require crystals for the transmitter. Crystals run about \$8 to \$10 each and can be obtained thru most crystal manufacturers. This is not a big concern since most of the AM activity is on 50.400 MHz (the national AM simplex frequency on 6M) so only one frequency is usually required.

Here's a list of some of the equipment hams use on 6M AM and their price ranges:

Gonset Communicator III	\$20 to \$50
Lafayette HA-460	\$20 to \$95
Clegg '99er	\$35 to \$75
Globe Scout Deluxe	n/a
Ameco TX-62	\$50 to \$85
Heath Seneca	\$50 to \$75
Heath Sixer	\$20 to \$35
Heath Shawnee (HW-10)	\$45 to \$85
Johnson 6/2	\$35 to \$65

(Note: Please send me additions to this list!)

Most of these old beauties require occasional adjustments to the receiver's VFO since drift is unavoidable. Heat from the vacuum tubes can cause drift but fortunately AM signals are wide enough that precise adjustments are not necessary.

Six meters is a band that needs exploring. While equipment for FM is becoming more popular, SSB rigs are still pricey. There's 4 MHz of space on

this band (equivalent to 2M) so there's plenty of room for adventure. There are also many openings that allow long distance communications so that one minute the band may be quiet and the next a station 600 miles away is booming in loud and clear.

So give 6M AM a try. It's a great way to get your feet wet on a new band. We need more activity here so that more modern equipment becomes available at better prices. Encourage other hams in your area to try 6M AM and get a net started. You'd be surprised how many of them have rigs collecting dust in the closet!

Please feel free to send comments, additions, etc. to me at the address above. I look forward to hearing you on 50.4 MHz! -Rob, N1NTE

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From owner-boatanchors@gnu.ai.mit.edu Sat Nov 26 18:09:53 1994  
Message-Id: <199411262215.RAA07056@geech.gnu.ai.mit.edu>  
Date: Sat, 26 Nov 94 15:06:14 MST  
From: Jack Taylor <n7oo@huachuca-emh8.army.mil>  
Subject: Panel templates?

I'm about to the point on my restoration projects where the front panels need to be repainted and the lettering for the switches, knobs, etc., will need to be redone after the painting. I'm sure this isn't a new topic and am wondering if anyone has pointers on how to harness the power of our computers to make up a painting template?  
73 de Jack

From owner-boatanchors@gnu.ai.mit.edu Sat Nov 26 12:47:03 1994  
From: JosephWP@aol.com  
Date: Sat, 26 Nov 1994 11:32:34 -0500  
Message-Id: <941126113233\_7395589@aol.com>  
Subject: Re: SF suffix tubes

Just ran across the following in my GE Essential Characteristics:

Foreign Type	American Substitute
1R5ST	1AQ5

1S5SF	1AR5
1T4SF	1AM4
1U5SF	1AS5
3S4SF	3W4

Joseph Pinner +  
Lafayette, LA  
KC5IJD

From owner-boatanchors@gnu.ai.mit.edu Sat Nov 26 10:48:19 1994  
Date: Sat, 26 Nov 1994 06:49:23 -0800  
Message-Id: <199411261449.GAA09453@ix.ix.netcom.com>  
From: jlockwd@ix.netcom.com (Jim Lockwood)  
Subject: Thanks for the kind messages (also cool mikes)

Hello again one and all,

It seems there have been rumors that I am reconnected to email again. And for better or worse, those rumors are true. In response to the news that I am connected again, I've been receiving many warm messages welcoming me back.

I've responded to every message that has come in, however....something isn't quite right with the email setup I have and many outbound messages have gone undelivered. Unfortunately, I haven't yet figured out a way to tell which ones fail to go. All I have learned how to do so far is to tell when something goes wrong....not what specifically has gone wrong.

So, the purpose of that overly boring explanation is to say, Thanks for welcoming me back, I think I'm getting all of the inbound email, and I greatly appreciate the kind comments I've been getting. It's humbling to realize that I'm still remembered after a year and a half of absence from the boatanchors list.

Speaking of boatanchors, for now it looks like I'll be reading it in digest form using the unc gopher function. That's OK. I'm just glad to be able to be a part of it again.

BTW, just saw the recent thread on cool and cool sounding microphones. I would be remis if I didn't offer my \$0.02 worth before signing off today:

My vote for absolute best sounding mike is the Electrovoice 630. Even on SSB, listeners who know my voice tell me that I sound just like myself when I use the 630.

One vote for cool goes to the Astatic T-3. A small mike with a chrome

case and chrome grill, it looks too little to be taken seriously. However, the one I have gets lots of reports about full bodied audio, so it can't be too shabby.

One vote for greatest bang for the buck goes to the Turner 350 mobile mike. These things are as cheap as they get, but they actually sound great and are remarkably rugged.

One poster mentioned the JT-30. I used to have one in the '60s and frequently got comments about broadcast quality audio. Inexpensive in its day and as common as dirt, I've seen only one at a ham swap in the last three years. Where did they all go? BTW, does anyone have one they want to get rid of?

That's all for now. AGain, many many thanks for all the kind "welcome back" messages.

Jim - KM6NK

From owner-boatanchors@gnu.ai.mit.edu Sat Nov 26 19:30:14 1994  
Date: Sat, 26 Nov 1994 17:56:09 -0500 (EST)  
From: "Richard A. Stalls" <rstalls@cap.gwu.edu>  
Subject: Tube Trivia: Whatzit?  
Message-Id: <Pine.3.07.9411261709.D2792-91000000@cap.gwu.edu>

Does anybody know the reason that some tubes have more than one designation? For example, the 6146 is also an 8032, an 807 is also a 5933, and so on. It would appear that dual/multiple designations only accomplish causing confusion.

(Is this trivial stuff, or what???)

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+-----+  
| Richard A. (TONY) Stalls, K4KY0 .... rstalls@cap.gwu.edu |  
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From owner-boatanchors@gnu.ai.mit.edu Sat Nov 26 23:35:21 1994  
Date: Sat, 26 Nov 94 17:38:50 HST  
From: jeffrey@math.hawaii.edu (Jeffrey Herman)  
Message-Id: <9411270338.AA03805@kahuna.math.hawaii.edu>  
Subject: Wanted 2-3 Mc Marine band xcvr

I'm looking for a 70's era 2-3 Mc AM marine band xcvr - these became illegal to sell after 1975 due to SSB requirement. Something like the old Pearce Simpson rigs. I'd like to get a couple - one for 160M and the other for 80M.

Jeff NH6IL